

Visual aspects next topic for freeway advisers

by **Colleen Sparks** - Apr. 11, 2008 09:48 AM
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As soon as dirt is moved, the proposed South Mountain Freeway would change what drivers, homeowners and passers-by see in Ahwatukee Foothills and in the West Valley.

Those visual aspects will be the topic of a meeting next week of the South Mountain Citizens Advisory Team, which is charged with recommending whether the freeway should be built.

The citizens group will be meet at 6 p.m. Thursday in the Student Union Hall at South Mountain Community College, 7050 S. 24th St., in south Phoenix. The group meets for dinner at 5:30.

A freeway study team led by the Arizona Department of Transportation will talk to the citizens group about "how the freeway would change the visual quality or the character of the landscape," said Tim Tait, community relations director for ADOT.

"When we talk about character, can you look out your window and see a mountain vista?" said Tait, who is also on a study team member. "We live in a valley so visual resources are always going to be an issue."

The freeway is proposed to run along the Pecos Road alignment through Ahwatukee.